Pope admits there is a 'gay lobby' at the highest levels of the Vatican

- Pope Francis acknowledged its long-rumoured existence for the first time
- Argentine Pontiff made remarks in audience with Latin American Catholics
- He also said there was a 'current of corruption' in the Roman Curia

By Daily Mail Reporter

Pope Francis has acknowledged the existence of a 'gay lobby' inside the Vatican's secretive administration for the first time.

Speaking during an audience with Latin American Catholics, the Argentine Pontiff said that there was a 'current of Roman central Catholic corruption' in the Curia the governing bodv of the Church. He also admitted the existence of a long-rumoured 'gay lobby' in the Curia, and hinted that he might take action over the issue.



Pope Francis has admitted for the first time that there is a 'gay lobby' at the highest levels of the Vatican

Speaking in his native Spanish last Thursday, the 76-year-old told the CLAR (the Latin American and Caribbean Confederation of Religious Men and Women): 'In the Curia, there are truly some saints, but there is also a current of corruption.

'There is talk of a 'gay lobby' and it's true, it exists,' he said, in a report on Chilean website <u>Reflexion y Liberacion</u>. 'We will have to see what we can do.'

The Argentine pope has made reforming the Roman Curia—the heavily criticised and intrigue-filled administration of the Catholic Church—a keystone of his papacy, but said it would be 'difficult'.



'I cannot carry out the reforms myself,' he said, explaining that he was 'very disorganised.' For that reason, the task will be handled by a commission of eight cardinals from around the world whom Pope Francis appointed in April to help him govern the Catholic Church. They are set to meet for the first time in October.

When the previous Pope, Benedict XVI, announced his decision to retire, many suspected the work of the rumoured gay lobby at the heart of the Curia.

The existence of a powerful gay lobby at the top of the Vatican has long been suspected